



The Halyard

We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sails

A weekly newsletter for Virginia's Library Media Specialists
January 23, 2004

View From The Crow's Nest



Some things are just too cool. I received a phone call from Indiana this week from someone who had been searching the Internet for ideas to use in a presentation on change. While doing a Google search, she found one of my Power Point presentations entitled *Moving The Fence*. She wanted to know if she could use it with some of her staff. Of course, I said yes, so now our Virginia information is now traveling to Indiana. Way to go Virginia! I also had an opportunity to share our efforts on the AASL forum this week. There was a discussion about state standards for library media programs and I posted a hit describing our projects; Powerful Partners, Academic Success, and the work we are currently doing on Linking Libraries. It is exciting to have the occasion to share the work that you are doing.

Our sails are full right now and our ships are running fast.

Great source for information on student achievement with technology

<http://www.rtec.org/index.shtml>

The Regional Technology in Education Consortia (R*TEC) program is established to help states, local educational agencies, teachers, school library and media personnel, administrators, and other education entities successfully integrate technologies into kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) classrooms, library media centers, and other educational settings, including adult literacy centers



Training Materials for Gale Products

Each of the databases available to our students has online tutorials and instructional materials that you may download for your use. Check out:

<http://www.galegroup.com/servlet/CSSubjectPageServlet?region=9&imprint=000>

And the Answer Is

In a recent discussion the questions were asked. Please send your responses to me and I will share the results.

What audiovisual equipment should be in today's library media center?

What equipment is being purchased for new schools? (New school construction rather than a remodel or expansion of existing school)

Is Channel One still used in schools?



From The Professional Reading Room

T.H.E. Journal Online has an interesting article this month on *Technology's Impact on Academic Achievement* by Samuel Besalel. In this article he discusses the changes that are occurring in the way students learn.

"One of the changes which has occurred in student learning is the shift from 'knowing answers' to knowing how and where to FIND answers." As reference materials abound, and are now inexpensive as well as widely available through a variety of media, it is more important to teach children HOW to determine facts than it is to force them to memorize many thing by rote...

In the Internet age, learning HOW and WHERE to seek information and to verify its source can be as relevant as knowing the information sought."

(T.H.E. Journal offers a free one-year subscription to qualified individuals in educational institutions in the United States. Go to <http://www.thejournal.com/freesub> for more information.)

From ASCD Education Update:

Promoting Partnerships: Ask parents to contribute examples from home that show their child's literacy and that can be included in their child's school portfolio. This reinforces the notion that parents and teachers are equal partners in the child's learning. (Faye Brown and Valerie Maholmes)

Reaching and Teaching

"There's a common notion that teachers are less intelligent than other professionals", said Larry Bell at the General Session of the ASCD Conference held in October of 2003. He says that his job is to debunk that myth. Bell told his education audience that there is really no room for self-doubt because "somebody needs you." Some children face seemingly insurmountable challenges, he noted, and these children need more than "leisure teachers." These children, Bell maintained, need teachers who will help them overcome those challenges and 'keep on keepin' on."

